

News & Views


 Newsletter

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

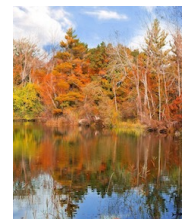
View from the Chair	1
Monthly Meetings	2
View from Committee	3
Group News	4-5
Eng Parish Churches	4
Spanish	4
Architecture	4
ETHEL	5
Roving Reporters	5-6
Days of Interest	5
Photography Group	6
Meetings Calendar	7
Group Leaders Meeting	8
Membership Renewals	8
Local Events	8-9
Charnwood Orchest.	8
Community Spirit	9
Woodhouse Eaves	9
Charnwood Museum	9
Leics Heritage Events	10
National u3a News	10
Poetry Corner	11
Quiz	11
Items for Newsletter	12
Contact Info	12

Interest Groups

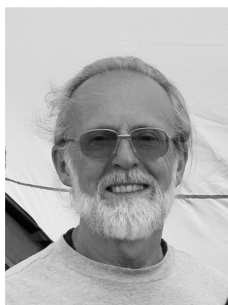
Details of Groups can be found on the Charnwood u3a website: www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk under 'Our Groups' menu.

Welcome

...to the October edition of News & Views, the newsletter of Charnwood u3a. We hope you'll find it both entertaining and informative. The content is written by members, and details for sending contributions can be found at the end of this newsletter.



A View from the Chair



Hello, I'm back! (I hope you are not too disappointed.) But, what to write? Having had a few months off News and Views duties, I had hoped the ideas would come thick and fast – no such luck! So, I will just start writing and see what comes of it.

Well, what a strange few months we have had. With temperatures in the 30s (and beyond), and very little rain, it has felt more like the Costa del Sol than the English East Midlands! Our garden has suffered dreadfully: the lawn turned brown, and many plants (including some established shrubs) either sulked or gave up the ghost completely.

Any new planting will have to be 'drought resistant', which probably means we will get non-stop rain throughout 2023! We were very critical when one of our neighbours had their entire (large) front garden laid to paving; maybe they had the right idea.

The Mediterranean conditions lasted into early September, since when we have slipped inexorably into autumn. OK, we are still getting some sunny days but, with temperatures slipping back into single figures, we are now pondering 'when to switch the central heating on'. The energy price cap was announced just in time!

Of course the main events of September resulted from the death of our dear Queen. Wasn't the funeral a marvellous spectacle! It is the sort of occasion that this country always does very well. Like many of you, I am sure, Eleanor and I watched the lead up to, and the funeral itself. All very moving. We would have continued watching during the afternoon were we not heading off to mid-Wales to visit friends. At least the roads were very quiet!

Time now to be looking forward. Following their summer recesses, I think all interest groups are now meeting again and, national disasters permitting, Monthly Meeting will be back this month!

The end of the year will, sadly, see the closure of Loughborough u3a. Many of their members (and groups!) are expected to transfer to Cu3a in the new year. Let us all make them very welcome; their joining will, I believe, be of benefit to us all.

Then before we know it, spring will be beckoning, and with it our 2023 AGM - and around we go again!

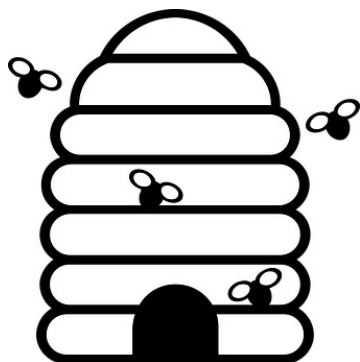
Mike Hood, Chair, Charnwood u3a, chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

Our Monthly Meetings

The monthly meetings of Charnwood u3a are on the **second Wednesday afternoon, 2.15 for 2.30 pm in Emmanuel Church**, Forest Road in Loughborough. The main car park for the church is spacious and to the west of the church. There is a very small parking facility adjacent to the church but please only use that if the main car park is too far away. Our monthly meetings are free to all, and we welcome prospective new members attending a meeting as a 'taster'. If you will need any assistance at the meeting, please contact our Chair in advance on chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk.

Our Next Meeting Wednesday 12th October

'Bee Keeping' with Dave Bonner



Our monthly meeting on 12th October is given by one of the leading beekeepers in the Midlands, Dave Bonner. He will explore the world of keeping these insects, their sophisticated social organisation and honey.

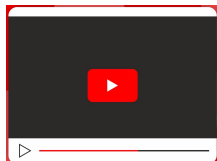
Dave will bring a hive with him which will be empty. The prospect of bees flying around Emmanuel Church is interesting but not on! In any case the insects are not active at this time of the year.

The time is 2.15 for 2.30 as usual. You can have a cup of tea afterwards. As usual we welcome members of other u3as and non-members alike. If you bring a non-member please let us know. Also please let me have your comments on the talk and subject. I shall be wearing a white badge.

Graham Cooper, Programme Secretary

To attend this meeting:

If you wish to attend the meeting in person, no pre-booking is required - just turn up on the day, with your Cu3a membership card. **Please do not arrive before 2 pm.**



If you are unable to attend in person and would like to follow the meeting online (via YouTube), please go to the meeting page on our website at:

<https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk/siteb/MonthlyMeetingOct2022.html>

where full details of how to join will be given.

Looking Ahead:

Monthly Meetings Nov 2022 - Mar 2023

- **Nov 9th:** *All about stained glass: its manufacture, cutting & installation*
- **Dec 14th:** *That Band - Popular songs from the 1960s and seasonal songs*
- **Jan 11th:** *Stilton Cheese - either you love it or hate it!*
- **Feb 8th:** *Why Sleep? - talk by a neuroscientist based at our local university until retirement*
- **Mar 8th:** *Scottish Dancing - A presentation by one of our own members*

There will be more details about each meeting in that month's newsletter.

View From The Committee (Part 3):



**Committee
Member:
Diana Harvey**

WHY I JOINED THE COMMITTEE

I was told that unless Cu3a had enough committee members, it would have to close down, according to Charity Commission Law. I put myself forward because I wanted to keep Cu3a going.

WHAT ARE THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS?

As a member of Charnwood u3a Committee, you are a trustee of a charity. This is a privilege and a responsibility and requires common sense. Legal requirements of a charity trustee are:-

1. Ensure your charity is carrying out its purpose.
2. Comply with its governing document and the law.
3. Act in the charity’s best interests.
4. Ensure the charity is accountable.
5. Manage the charity’s resources responsibly.
6. Act with reasonable care and skill.

HOW I JOINED THE COMMITTEE

I went as a guest to a committee meeting. I then completed and submitted an application form, supported by a proposer and seconder. At the AGM, when my name was announced, I stood up, smiled, and was voted onto the committee.

WHAT I DO ON THE COMMITTEE

Before each meeting, I read the Minutes of the last meeting and check whether they are according to my notes and memory. I read the reports of the various role-holders (Business Secretary, Beacon Administrator, Groups Coordinator, and so on). I attend Committee meetings from 10 until 12 on the second Wednesday morning each month in John Storer House, where I listen to the reports and am free to comment and participate in discussion of agenda items and any other business. I vote on all the proposals, whether to accept, vote against or abstain. Anyone can decide whether or not to pick up any additional tasks.

Please consider joining the Committee, because if there is no committee, then Charnwood u3a ceases to exist.



**Membership
Secretary:
Garry Rigby**

My background is Mathematics and Computing and I have used these skills in schools and colleges in both teaching and in administration, having been an exams officer, in charge of all the exam entries in school, and as a timetabler in the Computing Department at Leicester College.

One former committee member, way back in 2013, said to me, “You are good with computers, we need a new Membership Secretary, how about it?” Thanks to Keith Harrold I have been in this role since March 2014 (he has a lot to answer for).

Lots of changes have been implemented since then; renewals were all done by cheque but thankfully, BACS payments were introduced in 2016. This means that we will save £300 in bank charges for cheque deposits which were introduced last November. Registration at the Main Monthly meeting used to be a case of finding your name amongst 1000 and placing a tick by it, but bar codes on the membership card were introduced in 2018 to make life simpler, provided the scanner works.

I do enjoy the work, though sometimes you do have to be a detective. A few examples:

- A cheque comes through without any paperwork and the name on the cheque is the daughter’s name which is not the same as the member’s name.
- A BACS payment has a reference which could be one of two members.
- A member emails me that they haven’t received the renewal email, but the email address is different to the one in the database.

The one funny aspect is that the postman thinks I must be some form of celebrity, getting 50-80 letters a day during September. It’s just my fan mail, I keep on saying.

Group News

English Parish Churches



Our meeting on the afternoon of **Tuesday October 11th** is an open meeting for any members of the u3a, starting at 2 pm at All Saints Church, Steeple Row, Loughborough. The York Waits (the group who perform late medieval and 16th century music for official events in York) will be demonstrating musical instruments of the time and will be showing how the instruments, which the angels are holding in the roof of that period in the church, looked and sounded. This is an opportunity to see and hear the angels 'come to life!' Doors open 1.40, admission £2, including refreshments.

The Waits are also giving an evening concert of music of the period at 7.30 pm which is open to anyone. Tickets at £12/£10 concessions are available from the church office: 01509 217029, email: office@allsaintsloughborough.org.uk or on the All Saints website,

look under What's On and go to October 11th.

Roger Willson

More background information and links for this event can be found in [August's News & Views](#) (page 4).

Spanish

After nine months of Zoom meetings and a brief sojourn at Gorse Covert, the Cu3a Spanish group are now back at **Tesco Community Room on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month**. However, following a successful 10 months meeting up again face to face, the group now has above its ideal number of members, so we are forming a waiting list.

If you would like more details about the group or want to put your name on the list, please email the group leader at spanish@charnwoodu3a.org.uk.



Sue Pennykid

Architecture



Building on great foundations!

Some of you may have heard on the grapevine that the Architecture Group was folding, well scrub that – we've got a team together to keep building from Avril's excellent foundations...nay, skyscraper! – and we're currently putting together an exciting programme of talks and events for next year.

So, do come along and sample our new programme of events anytime. We meet at **Gorse Covert Community Centre on the 4th Thursday of each month 2 - 4pm**. We are a friendly,

unstuffy group and take the term 'Architecture' very broadly! We've had a hilarious talk on *What Makes A Building Ugly*; an illustrated lecture on *Animal Architecture* (with everything from Mr Badger's cosy sett in *Wind in the Willows* to the complex air-conditioning systems of termite mounds); quizzes; mini-talks by members on favourite buildings or architects...

And we hope to team up with other Cu3a groups when our speaker is of interest – e.g. we'll be getting a lecturer in on **What Makes Sustainable Architecture**; and there'll be a talk on **Guilty Architecture** – about how long do buildings carry their evil past.

Char March

ETHEL

Inspired by last month's session on nonsense verse, ETHEL members tried their hand at limericks. Here is a selection of their efforts.

When our group leader departed for Sitges,
Nonsense rhymes had us all in stitches.
With it's Ning Nang Nong,
And wacky Walrus song.
A vast genre to gladly enrich us.

There was a young linguist called Lee,
Who strove to improve Lit'racy.
Thinking Adverbs were dead,
Using Adjectives instead,
All he writes now reads beautiful...

There once was a group called Ethel
Their leader was someone quite special
She made points about grammar
That caused some to stammer
And kept everyone on their mettle.

The virus named COVID-19
Is as dire as a virus has been
But hope is not gone
And life can go on
By getting a dose of vaccine.

Roving Reporters

Days of Interest September Trip

Our September trip took us into Yorkshire. Our first stop was at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, a chance to see modern sculpture set within a fantastic landscape on a pleasantly sunny day. Many of us decided to join a short introductory



tour, during which a very knowledgeable volunteer showed us some of the highlights, ranging from the exuberant red "Love" sculpture (pictured left), a delicate cast bronze tree hung with shiny apples (pictured below) to a group of granite sculptures called "Amoeba" which cried out to be touched. The visit also prompted many discussions about the merits of modern art and sculpture in the landscape.

In the afternoon we moved on to Nostell, a National Trust property. Again this was set in a beautiful landscape, and we were able to enjoy both the formal gardens and the parkland as well as the house itself – not forgetting the café. The house was

interesting, including a very large dolls house, which was not designed or used as a toy but as a means by which women were encouraged to learn how to run a country house and practise social etiquette. Latterly it may even have been used to experiment with room designs – an early mood board?

If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Pauline May at ppc.wat@ntlworld.com, 01509 552834 or 07455 167929 for details.



Group of us in front of Buddha by Niki de Saint Phalle at Yorkshire Sculpture Park



Enjoying a cup of tea at the Nostell café

More Roving Reporters

Photography Group Trip to The Peak District

The September trip out for the Photography Group has for the past few years been a visit to the Derbyshire Peak District to see the purple heather, sometimes good sometimes not so good, but this year the landscape was just a kaleidoscope of colour (*as shown in the photos on the right and below*).

The purple heather, the yellow gorse and the bracken changing from green to yellow, plus the dark rocks in the midst of all this colour were all very special and we hoped that our pictures would capture this.

After our walk, we finished the visit with lunch in Bamford at the Anglers Rest, a quaint café/pub/post office owned and run by the local community.

If you are interested in joining us please contact photography@charnwoodu3a.org.uk



Photographs taken by the Photography group, capturing the colourful scene on their trip to the Derbyshire Peak District in September 2022.

October 2022 Meetings

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
3 Oct 09.30 Yoga 10.00 Latin 11.00 Table Tennis 1 13.30 Canasta 2 14.00 Chess 15.00 Current Affairs	4 Oct 09.30 Pilates 2 10.00 10+ Walks 10.00 Spanish 11.00 Table Tennis 2 11.15 Pilates 3 14.00 Canasta 1 14.00 Sing4Pleasure	5 Oct 09.30 Golf 10.00 Classical Greek 10.00 German 10.00 JigsawBookEx 10.00 Mini Tennis 10.00 Scottish Dance 11.00 Table Tennis 3 14.00 Cribbage 2 14.00 Scrabble 2 14.00 Sustain Planet	6 Oct 10.00 Sci & Tech 10.00 Spanish Conv 10.30 Amble/Strollers 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Bowls Indoor 14.00 French Conv	7 Oct 09.00 Badminton 10.00 German: RTC 10.00 Line Dance 10.00 Mah Jong 10.00 Table Tennis 7 10.30 Tai Chi 11.00 Table Tennis 5 12.00 Lunch Club 1 12.00 Table Tennis 6 13.30 Pilates 1
10 Oct 09.30 Yoga 10.00 Poetry 1 11.00 Table Tennis 1 13.00 Quiz group 14.00 Archaeology 14.00 Digital Imaging	11 Oct 09.30 Pilates 2 10.00 Scrabble 3 11.00 Table Tennis 2 11.15 Pilates 3 14.00 Canasta 1 14.00 Eng Parish Ch	12 Oct 09.30 Golf 10.00 Committee 10.00 Mini Tennis 11.00 Table Tennis 3 14.30 Monthly Meet	13 Oct 10.00 Les Sportives 10.00 Thurs 6 Milers 10.30 Amble/Strollers 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Bowls Indoor 14.00 Making Music	14 Oct 09.00 Badminton 10.00 Classical Civ 10.00 Line Dance 10.00 Mah Jong 10.00 Needlecraft 1 10.00 Table Tennis 7 10.30 Tai Chi 11.00 Table Tennis 5 12.00 Table Tennis 6 13.30 Pilates 1
17 Oct 09.30 Yoga 11.00 Table Tennis 1 13.30 Canasta 2 14.00 Chess 14.00 Gardening 14.00 Painting	18 Oct 09.30 Pilates 2 10.00 6+ Walks 10.00 Spanish 11.00 Table Tennis 2 11.15 Pilates 3 14.00 Canasta 1 14.00 Philosophy 2 14.00 Sing4Pleasure	19 Oct 09.30 Golf 10.00 German 10.00 Mini Tennis 10.00 Poetry 2 10.00 Scottish Dance 11.00 Table Tennis 3 14.00 Cribbage 2 14.00 Family History 14.00 Italian Conv 14.00 Scrabble 2	20 Oct 10.00 Parish Walks 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Bowls Indoor 14.00 French Conv 14.15 Scrabble 4 18.30 Supper Club 2	21 Oct 09.00 Badminton 10.00 German: RTC 10.00 Line Dance 10.00 Mah Jong 10.00 Table Tennis 7 10.30 Photography 10.30 Tai Chi 11.00 Table Tennis 5 12.00 Table Tennis 6 13.30 Pilates 1 14.00 Art Apprec'n 15.00 Mac Users
24 Oct 09.30 Yoga 11.00 Table Tennis 1 14.00 Digital Imaging 14.00 Local History	25 Oct 09.30 Pilates 2 10.00 ETHEL 10.00 Needlecraft 2 10.00 Scrabble 3 11.00 Table Tennis 2 11.15 Pilates 3 14.00 Canasta 1 14.00 Philosophy 1	26 Oct 09.30 Golf 10.00 History 10.00 Mini Tennis 11.00 Table Tennis 3 14.00 Classical Music	27 Oct 10.00 Les Sportives 10.00 Thurs 6 Milers 10.30 Amble/Strollers 11.00 Table Tennis 4 14.00 Architecture 14.00 Bowls Indoor 14.00 Making Music	28 Oct 09.00 Badminton 10.00 Line Dance 10.00 Mah Jong 10.00 Needlecraft 1 10.00 Table Tennis 7 10.30 Tai Chi 11.00 Table Tennis 5 12.00 Table Tennis 6 13.30 Pilates 1
31 Oct 09.30 Yoga 11.00 Table Tennis 1 12.00 Group Leaders 13.30 Canasta 2				

PLUS at Weekends: Saturday Walks (1st Oct); Sunday Lunch Club (9th Oct);
Days of Interest trip to Oxford (15th Oct).

For more information, visit our **website** (<https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk>) for the interactive calendar.
Please send any amendments for future calendars to the Editor at newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

Group Leaders Meeting: 31st October



The next Group Leaders meeting will be held at **Emmanuel Church on Monday 31st October**. Starting at 12 noon with a buffet lunch, it will follow the same format as the previous meeting in April, giving group leaders a good opportunity to exchange ideas and discuss any matters affecting them and their groups.

Group Leaders should make every effort to attend if they can.

Membership Renewals

Thank you to all of you who have renewed. I have processed about 55% of members so far. All the letters and emails have gone so if you have not received your membership card, it may be that the email is in your SPAM/JUNK folder or that you have changed your email address and not informed me. I can always resend it if necessary.

I would ask that if you are going to renew that you do so this month to avoid receiving a reminder email in early November. Again, If you are no longer wanting to be a member I would ask you to let me know during October.

Garry Rigby (Membership Secretary) Tel: 01509 213655
email: memsec@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

Upcoming Local Events

Charnwood Orchestra

Charnwood Orchestra's next concert will be on **Saturday 26th November** at **Emmanuel Church, Forest Road, Loughborough, starting at 19:30**.

They are excited to welcome back Thomas Bowes to perform the **Elgar Violin Concerto**. This is a precursor to both Tom and Nic Fallowfield recording this in the new year.

Other works being played in this all English programme include:

Vaughan Williams Overture: 'The Wasps'

Bax Symphonic poem: 'Tintagel'

Holst Ballet music from 'The Perfect Fool'

Tickets (£14 adults, £12 concessions, £5 18s and under or NUS members) are available via the Orchestra website:

www.charnwoodorchestra.org.uk

and / or may be reserved via email:

tickets@charnwoodorchestra.org.uk

the Charnwood Orchestra
Music Director
Nic Fallowfield

**Saturday
26th November 2022
7:30pm**

**Emmanuel Church
Forest Road
Loughborough LE11 3NW**

Conductor Nic Fallowfield
Violin Thomas Bowes

Vaughan Williams Overture: 'The Wasps'
Bax Symphonic poem: 'Tintagel'
Holst Ballet music from 'The Perfect Fool'
Elgar Violin Concerto

Tickets:

- The Orchestra website
- tickets@charnwoodorchestra.org.uk
- Members of the Orchestra
- At the door, cash payments only

£14.00 (£12.00 concessions)
£5.00 -18s and under or NUS members

[/charnwoodorchestra](https://www.facebook.com/charnwoodorchestra)
[/charnwoodorch](https://twitter.com/charnwoodorch)

Next Concert: 14th January 2023 - please see website for details

www.charnwoodorchestra.org.uk

More Upcoming Local Events

Community Spirit Exhibition



Source: Charnwood Borough Council

John Storer House, Loughborough
3rd - 14th October, Monday - Saturday, 10am - 2pm

A community arts project celebrating the work of volunteers during the Coronavirus pandemic. Local people who gave their time freely to help others during lockdown were invited to share their story and help to make rosettes which have been made into a celebratory artwork, booklet and film.

The rosettes are made from printed papers and stitched textiles devised by project artists Ruth Singer and Mandeep Dhadialla. They have been combined into a stunning display which celebrates the hard work and the positive well-being benefits of volunteering.

For further details, see: <https://ruthsinger.com/community-spirit/>

Woodhouse Eaves, the Village, Church and School at War

Saturday 15th October 13.00-17.00. At St Paul's Church, Church Hill, Woodhouse Eaves.

Heritage Open Afternoon with the theme of 'The Village, Church and School at War' with Colonel Martin's memorabilia displayed, evidence of the church's military associations, records of the school at war and details of those on our war memorials plus tombola, book and jewellery stalls.



Friends of Charnwood Museum

Thursday 13th October:
Charles Frederick Ball, from Loughborough to Gallipoli

Charles Frederick Ball (1879-1915), was born and brought up in Loughborough and carved out a distinguished career for himself as a botanist and horticulturist, ending up as Assistant Keeper at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Dublin. Tragically, his life ended prematurely when he enlisted in the Royal Dublin Fusiliers on the outbreak of WW1 and was killed at Gallipoli in 1915.

Speaker Brian Willan is a grandson of Fred Ball's wife Alice (via her second marriage) and draws upon recently discovered family letters and photographs, as well as research in other archives, to tell his fascinating story – and that of Alice too.



© IWM HU 113237

See: <https://charnwoodcouncil.bookinglive.com/friends-of-charnwood-museum/charles-frederick-ball>

This talk is at **Charnwood Museum beginning at 7.30 pm**, with tea and coffee available from around 7.00. Please use the evening entrance on Granby Street. Tickets are £3 per person and booking is now live via the Charnwood Museum website Events page or by clicking on the link above.

Notice Board: For information about upcoming events in the local area, and other matters that might be of interest to you, do keep an eye on the Noticeboard page on our website at: <https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk/NoticeBoard.html>

Leicestershire County Council Heritage Services Events

Two upcoming events, both at the Bosworth Battlefield Centre, Sutton Cheney, might be of interest:



The Rutland Roman Villa Project

Sun 9th October, 14:30 – 15:30.

£6 per person. Pre-booking Essential.

Archaeologist Peter Liddle will speak about the excavations that took place in Rutland that have revealed a spectacular mosaic pavement showing the story of Hector and Achilles at the siege of Troy and the villa in whose main room it lay.



Katherine Parr: The Sixth Queen

Friday 11th November, 7pm - 8pm, Doors 6pm.

£12.50 per person. Pre-booking Essential.

Join Alison Weir in the beautiful surroundings of The Tithe Barn at Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre for this talk about the final instalment of the Six Tudor Queens series, "Katherine Parr – The Sixth Queen".

For further information about either of these events, go to: <https://www.bosworthbattlefield.org.uk/>

News from the National u3a



Free On-Line Events this Month include:

- **Mindfulness & Meditation - Autumn Series**, every Tue 4 Oct - 8 Nov, 10 am.
- **Driving tips with IAM Roadsmart**, Wed 5 Oct, 10 am
- **Celebrated Pianist Andrew Wilde at the Piano**, Mon 17 Oct, 2 pm
- **Diwali - Festival of Light**, talk on Diwali's significance to different faiths, Mon 24 Oct, 10 am.
- **The Arrow of Time** with physicist Jim Al-Khalili CBE, FRS, Thu 27 Oct, 3 pm.
- **The Swan - its life, nature & future**, with author, journalist & photographer Dan Keel, Fri 28 Oct, 2 pm.

For details of these and other upcoming free on-line events offered by the National u3a - and also booking details for the Royal Institution event below, go to: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events>

Science at the Royal Institution

Monday, 31st October, 1:45 - 4:45 pm. This hybrid event, exclusively for u3a members, will explore space, chemistry and future power solutions. Tickets cost £20 to attend in person and £8.50 to attend online.

Impact

u3a is developing the movement's voice to make a social impact and change, both nationally and in local communities. Read about ongoing projects on the new Impact page at <https://www.u3a.org.uk/our-impact>

National u3a Newsletter and More:

To register to receive the National u3a newsletter regularly, go to: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/newsletter> where you will find a link to recent issues (also see our Cu3a website under 'News' - National u3a Newsletters...).

The u3a National programmes page has more learning initiatives to get involved with. New programmes for Autumn include upcycling & repurposing, 1950s & 1960s memories and cake decorating. Also ongoing themes like mathematical challenges, sharing photos and artwork - and the monthly radio podcast. Go to <https://www.u3a.org.uk/learning/national-programmes> for details.

Poetry Corner

For this autumn season, member Louie Carr suggested this classic poem by John Keats (published 1820).

To Autumn

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
 Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
 Conspiring with him how to load and bless
 With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eves run;
 To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,
 And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
 To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
 With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
 And still more, later flowers for the bees,
 Until they think warm days will never cease,
 For summer has o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells.

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?
 Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find
 Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,
 Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;
 Or on a half-reap'd furrow sound asleep,



Drows'd with the fume of poppies, while thy hook
 Spares the next swath and all its twined flowers:
 And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep
 Steady thy laden head across a brook;
 Or by a cyder-press, with patient look,
 Thou watchest the last oozings hours by hours.

Where are the songs of spring? Ay, Where are they?
 Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,—
 While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day,
 And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;
 Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn
 Among the river shallows, borne aloft
 Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;
 And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;
 Hedge-crickets sing; and now with treble soft
 The red-breast whistles from a garden-croft;
 And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.



Quiz Time: (answers in next month's News & Views)

- 1) What was called "Operation London Bridge"?
- 2) The title of the 2019 musical *A Strange Loop* refers to a term coined by which US cognitive scientist?
- 3) What happened to Colchester and Milton Keynes in England and Bangor, Co. Down in Northern Ireland in the summer of 2022?
- 4) Which *Neighbours* star had a 1989 No. 1 single hit with *Too Many Broken Hearts*?
- 5) Which Christian martyr is the patron saint of archers?
- 6) The Burman people form the largest linguistic group in which country?
- 7) How many numbered symphonies did Franz Schubert compose?
- 8) Where, about 30 miles from Loughborough, can one find the Wicker Man, Rollercoaster and Congo Rapids ?
- 9) Which conflict began, formally, on 17th.May 1706 when Great Britain declared war on France?
- 10) Which New Zealand born spy was dubbed "*The White Mouse*" by the Gestapo?
- 11) Which river in North West England derives its name from an old English word meaning "boundary"?
- 12) The state funeral of our late Queen was believed to have been watched by what estimated percentage of the world's population?
- 13) What is the largest historic county in England (by area) without a coastline?
- 14) Which country has the longest land border with Germany?
- 15) Which type of butter derives its name from "sprinkled" in Sanskrit?
- 16) Who, in politics, was "Ramshackle Mac"?
- 17) Which small rodent is the only mammal to have a prehensile tail?
- 18) Which muppet played the piano?
- 19) Which sum of money is called a *monkey* in slang?
- 20) Which Welsh university did King Charles The Third attend?



Items for News & Views

Do you have an announcement, story, poem - or even a short comment - to share with your fellow Cu3a members? All contributions are very welcome, and we can preserve your anonymity if you prefer that your name does not appear in the newsletter.

There is a limit of around 500 words per item, and photos are very welcome.

To enable the newsletter to be compiled in time for delivery to members at the start of each month, the deadline for receiving items will normally be the last day but one of the previous month. The deadline for the **November** issue of **News & Views** will be **Sunday, 30th October (12 noon)**.



Please send your contributions to the Newsletter Editor at: newsletter@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

Please make sure you include your contact details with your item, and try not to leave it until the last minute if at all possible.

The Editor reserves full editorial rights as to length and suitability and the Editor's decision is final.

News & Views is sent to all Charnwood u3a members by email link (or, for those without email, by post) before the monthly meeting. It is also available to read on the Charnwood u3a website each month at www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk under the News menu.

Thank You!

Helen Reid
Newsletter Editor
Charnwood u3a



Committee and Group Leaders' Details

Names, photos and generic email addresses ending @charnwoodu3a.org.uk of all the current Committee members - along with links to their role descriptions - can be found on our website at: <https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk/siteb/CommitteeContactsNew.html> and those of other members of our Support Team are at: <https://www.charnwoodu3a.org.uk/siteb/SupportTeamContacts.html>



The names and generic email addresses of Group Leaders for each group can be found on that group's dedicated website page, accessed via Our Groups - Groups Listed...

Telephone numbers of Group Leaders can be accessed from the Members area of the website, using login details previously supplied.

Note: Where personal contact details appear in News & Views, these are included with permission.

Committee Meetings

Don't forget that members are always welcome to attend any of our Committee meetings on the **second Wednesday of the month** (10 am - noon), by prior arrangement, as observers. If you would like to attend one of these meetings and see what we do, please contact our Chair on chair@charnwoodu3a.org.uk

Some other useful u3a web addresses:

National u3a: <https://www.u3a.org.uk>

The Association of East Midlands u3as: www.eastmidlandsu3as.org.uk

Leicestershire and Rutland Network: www.landru3a.org.uk

Beacon: <https://www.u3a.org.uk/beacon>

